

2016

THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND ANNUAL REPORT

- >> **The National Historic Preservation Act** of 1966 (NHPA), in its declaration, affirmed that the spirit and direction of the Nation are founded upon and reflected in its historic heritage. Increased knowledge of our historic resources, better means of identifying and administering them, and encouragement of their preservation has been the intent of the NHPA that celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2016. The Act envisioned a funding source to provide the means to implement, through partnerships, participation in preservation efforts at all levels of government. In response, the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF), was established in 1977 to offer assistance and incentives.
- >> **The Historic Preservation Fund** is administered on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior by the National Park Service (NPS). Funded by Outer Continental Shelf oil lease revenues, not tax dollars, the exploitation of one resource is to benefit another, our irreplaceable shared heritage. Authorized at \$150 million annually, the HPF has yet to receive a full appropriation, averaging less than \$50 million per year despite inflation and increased participation and successes. Preservation projects funded by the HPF include: survey and inventory, National Register nominations, preservation education, technical assistance, preservation planning, and physical preservation of historic buildings. The HPF allows the flexibility to shape a program according to the State, Tribe, or local governments' needs, as long as they are meeting the overall responsibilities outlined by the NHPA. All States also provide a minimum 40% non-federal match, further leveraging federal investment.
- >> **The Evolution of the Fund** began with initial creation to fund each State through the State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPO). Amendments to the NHPA expanded the use of the fund to local governments in 1980, and Tribes in 1992, creating the Federal Preservation Partnership Program as we know it today. Local participation was established through the Certified Local Government Program (participants are known as CLGs) and engagement with Tribal governments on historic and cultural preservation was instituted through the creation of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs). Other competitive grant programs funded over the years have allowed for collaboration with a variety of additional public and private partners, bringing them into the Federal Preservation Program.
- >> **Achievements of the HPF** center around partnership. Each year the majority of appropriated funds are allocated to State and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers through formula grants to fulfill the intent of the NHPA. The HPF provides flexibility to shape their program to the State or Tribe's needs, providing they are meeting the overall responsibilities outlined by the NHPA. Responsibilities include contributions to the National Register of Historic Places, assisting in better federal agency planning through Section 106 review, repair of historic sites, statewide preservation planning, review of federal historic tax incentive projects, and preservation education.
- >> **Certified Local Government Pass-through** continues the partnership theme by requiring each State to pass through at least ten percent of their annual HPF appropriation to Certified Local Governments (CLG). CLGs are local governments certified by the NPS for making a local commitment to historic preservation. These almost 2000 communities have special access to this funding and technical assistance to assist preservation projects important to their community. All HPF assisted projects must follow the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation.



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF THE NHPA

While the nation celebrated the centennial of the National Park Service, the year 2016 also marked the 50th Anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act, signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson on October 15, 1966. The National Park Service celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Act through a variety of products and outreach methods. Throughout the year, the NPS published weekly "50 for 50" social media posts that highlighted significant historic preservation work in each state and territory. Featured projects varied from tax credit projects, work by local governments, significant partnerships, successful grants, and disaster recovery projects.

Noting the significance of educating future generations of preservationists, an interdisciplinary group of NPS employees created a Historic Preservation Junior Ranger book and toolkit that was distributed to every park site throughout the country. A limited number of copies are available to NPS partners and can be requested by emailing Preservation_Grants_Info@nps.gov.

UNDERREPRESENTED COMMUNITIES GRANT

African-American Heritage in 'Big Sky Country'

MONTANA – In 2005 and again in 2007, the Montana Cultural Trust granted the Montana Historical Society funding for “Identifying Montana’s African American Heritage Resources.” Historians, staff, and volunteers combed the Society’s collections for manuscripts, oral histories, newspaper articles, artifacts, census records, and photographs that told the stories of the state’s African-American residents, assembling bibliographies, biographical databases, and transcribed census information. Results included timelines, lesson plans, and a website on Montana’s African-American history and historical resources, bringing new visibility for this understudied group of Montanans.

A second phase began in 2014, with the award of an Underrepresented Community grant from the HPF for the “Identifying Montana African American Heritage Places Project.” With this funding, staff, interns, and local volunteers compiled 25 historic property inventories statewide in addition to focusing on an additional 26 properties in Helena, creating a Multiple Property Documentation form, and two National Register of Historic Places nominations: the Crump-Howard House and the Dorsey Grocery and Residence (see images below). This new documentation is publically available through the Montana Memory Project in a new collection titled “Montana’s African American Heritage Places.” In addition, the Montana History Foundation provided nearly \$10,000 in additional support.



Crump-Howard House, Helena, MT



Dorsey Grocery and Residence, Helena, MT



Photos Courtesy of Montana Historical Society

FISCAL YEAR 2016 AT A GLANCE

COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAMS

- For a third year, Underrepresented Communities Grant Program awarded \$500,000 to fund 12 surveys and National Register nomination projects. 60 applicants requested over \$2 million.
- In its first year, the African American Civil Rights grant program awarded \$8 million in new HPF funding to 39 grants in 22 states to fund history and preservation projects. 164 applicants requested over \$31 million.
- Indian Tribes, Alaska Native Groups, and Native Hawaiian Organizations received \$531,187 for 16 projects as part of the Tribal Heritage Grant Program.
- 12 SHPOs and two THPOs continued to manage \$47 million in disaster recovery grants awarded in 2013 for Hurricane Sandy-impacted areas.
- Supplemental funding for the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program provided \$2.8 million to 15 projects.
- Over 25 Save America's Treasures projects were completed in 2016 marking the final year of appropriated funding.

CLG PROGRAM & PLANNING

- 38 new communities became Certified Local Governments (CLGs), bringing the total number of participating communities in the federal preservation program to 1,966.
- The Historic Preservation Planning Program reviewed and approved 10 state-wide historic preservation plans in 2016. Required under the NHPA, these plans identify social, economic, and environmental trends that influence preservation practice, and reflect public participation in the planning process.

NATIONAL REGISTER, SECTION 106 REVIEWS & ARCHEOLOGICAL SURVEY

- 921 new listings added to the National Register of Historic Places bringing the cumulative total to 92,406 listings with 1.8 million total contributing resources.
- Approximately 6.36 million acres surveyed for cultural resources, with over 137,000 properties evaluated for their historical significance and added to State inventories.
- SHPOs reviewed 99,845 Federal undertakings and provided 82,114 National Register eligibility opinions.

FEDERAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION TAX PROGRAM

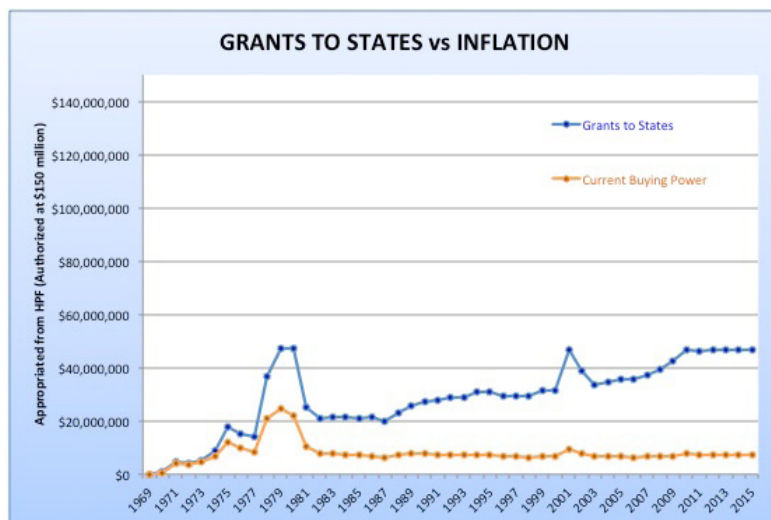
- Over \$5.85 billion of private investment occurred through the rehabilitation of commercial historic properties under the Federal Historic Preservation Tax program, for a total of \$84.15 billion since 1977.
- 7,181 low- and moderate-income housing units created through the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit program, for a total of 153,255 units since 1977.
- Estimated 108,528 jobs created by Federal Historic Preservation Tax program projects in 2016, 2.44 million since 1977.

DISTRIBUTION OF HPF FOR FY 2016

State Historic Preservation Offices	\$ 46,925,000
Tribal Historic Preservation Offices	\$ 9,780,208
Tribal Project Grants	\$ 204,095
Underrepresented Community Grants	\$ 500,000
African American Civil Rights	\$ 8,000,000
Total	\$ 56,410,000

*Supplemental Japanese-American Confinement Sites funding from NPS National Recreation & Preservation Account \$ 2,845,000

*Funding for Save America's Treasures and Preserve America was not appropriated in 2016 though both programs remain authorized.



Successful CLG Collaboration in Kentucky

CLG projects in Kentucky know the concept of collaboration well. The communities of Covington and Bellevue, with assistance of the Historic Preservation Fund, produced an educational video to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the NHPA. This was the third video collaboration, and the capstone for the series. These two communities have had preservation programs in place and a CLG designation since the 1980s. Both are urban communities rich in historic resources, and with the renewed interest in living in compact urban environments, both have benefitted tremendously from having a framework in place to identify, evaluate and protect resources early on.

They both have very active and successful Main Street programs that collaborate with the professionals in their historic preservation planning departments. They have really promoted public preservation education through projects like this video and the organization of an annual conference to help historic property owners understand their properties and put them in touch with preservation contractors. This event is called "Northern Kentucky Restoration Weekend," and utilizes the HPF CLG allocation. The annual host, Gateway Community Technical College, has initiated a new Preservation Arts program, in part as a result of all of the great work these communities are doing.

Photos Courtesy of Kentucky Heritage Council



Downtown Bellevue, KY



Downtown Bellevue, KY



Downtown Madison, KY



Downtown Madison, KY



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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